

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Claire MARTIN, et al.

Attorney Docket Q57933

Appln. No.: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: February 25, 2000

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: A METHOD TO PERFORM CENTRAL CONTROL, A LINE TERMINATOR AND AN ELEMENT CONTROLLER REALIZING SUCH A METHOD AND A TREE-LIKE NETWORK INCLUDING SUCH A LINE TERMINATOR AND AN ELEMENT CONTROLLER

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, after the title, ~~insert~~ the heading: --Background of the Invention--.

line 5-6, ~~delete~~ "as described in the preamble of claim 1".

line 6-7, ~~delete~~ "as described in the preamble of claim 4".

line 7-8, ~~delete~~ "as described in the preamble of claim 6".

line 8-9, ~~delete~~ "as described in the preamble of claim 9".

Page 3, after line 7, ~~insert~~ the heading: --Summary of the Invention--.

lines 12-16, ~~delete~~ in their entirety and insert:

--According to the invention, this object is achieved by the method to perform central control, the line terminator and the element controller realizing such a method,